

Senate File 2303 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2303
BY COMMITTEE ON STATE
GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 2137)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for the establishment of a uniform statewide
2 emergency outdoor warning system task force.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. UNIFORM STATEWIDE EMERGENCY OUTDOOR WARNING
2 SYSTEM — TASK FORCE ESTABLISHED.

3 1. a. The director of the department of homeland security
4 and emergency management, or the director's designee, shall
5 convene a task force that includes members representing the
6 departments of homeland security and emergency management,
7 public defense, public safety, and education, private sector
8 meteorologists, local emergency management commissions
9 including a commission which utilizes an outdoor warning system
10 that supports a nuclear power generation facility, and cities,
11 counties, townships, and unincorporated areas of varying
12 populations and geographic areas of the state. The objective
13 of the task force shall be to establish common guidelines
14 across the state for the activation of emergency outdoor
15 warning systems.

b. The task force shall collect and analyze data relating to the criteria for emergency outdoor warning system activation and the extent to which the criteria varies, and the varying procedures for activation of emergency outdoor warning systems. Based on this analysis, the task force shall develop recommendations for standardizing emergency outdoor warning system activation, and a set of best practices regarding the operation and maintenance of such systems.

24 2. The task force shall submit a report summarizing its
25 findings and recommendations to the governor and the general
26 assembly by January 1, 2015.

27 EXPLANATION

28 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
29 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

30 This bill establishes a uniform statewide emergency outdoor
31 warning system task force.

32 The bill requires the director of the department of homeland
33 security and emergency management, or the director's designee,
34 to convene a task force that includes members representing the
35 departments of homeland security and emergency management,

1 public defense, public safety, and education, private sector
2 meteorologists, local emergency management commissions
3 including a commission which utilizes an outdoor warning
4 system that supports a nuclear power generation facility,
5 and cities, counties, townships, and unincorporated areas of
6 varying populations and geographic areas of the state. The
7 bill provides that the objective of the task force shall be to
8 establish common guidelines across the state for the activation
9 of emergency outdoor warning systems.

10 The task force is charged with collecting and analyzing data
11 relating to the criteria for emergency outdoor warning system
12 activation and the extent to which the criteria varies, and the
13 varying procedures for activation of emergency outdoor warning
14 systems. Based on this analysis, the bill requires the task
15 force to develop recommendations for standardizing emergency
16 outdoor warning system activation, and a set of best practices
17 regarding the operation and maintenance of such systems.

18 The bill requires the task force to submit a report
19 summarizing its findings and recommendations to the governor
20 and the general assembly by January 1, 2015.